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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Muni et al.

Group Art Unit 3734

Appl. No.

09/049,857

Filed

March 27, 1998

For

ASPIRATION METHOD

Examiner

D. Blyveis

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

nneMarie Kaiser Reg. No. 37,649

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

SEP - 3 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3200

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

A method for the treatment of an occlusion in a blood vessel having a fluid pressure 15. of at least about 0.2 psi, comprising: 용용

inserting a first catheter having an occlusive device at its distal end into said bloods vessel, until said occlusive device is distal to said occlusion;

activating said occlusive device to at least partially occlude said vessel distal to said occlusion and create a working area surrounding said occlusion;